

**City of Chula Vista  
Parks and Recreation Commission  
Minutes**

Thursday - 6:30 p.m.  
Civic Center Bldg 300 Cnf Rm B129

November 19, 2009  
276 Fourth Avenue

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Meeting called to order by Chair Chambers at 6:35 p.m.

Staff Present:       Richard Hopkins, Director of Public Works  
                          Brian Cox, Principal Recreation Manager  
                          Mary Radley, Landscape Architect  
                          Garry Williams, Landscape Planner  
                          Jim Garcia, Deputy Fire Chief

**1.     Roll Call/Motion to Excuse**

Members Present:   Commissioner Vogel (arrived at 6:35 pm), Commissioner Cien-Mayer, Commissioner Rios, Commissioner Chambers

Members Absent:    Commissioner Scott, Commissioner Garza  
                          MSC Cien-Mayer/Vogel to excuse (4-0-0-2)

**2.     a.     Approval of Minutes of July 19, 2009 – Table to the next meeting.**

**3.     Information Items – SDG&E South Library Park (Mary Radley) –** Ms. Radley (Landscape Architect) provided information on the progress of the new park located within the SDG&E easement located adjacent to the South Chula Vista Library (corner of Fourth and Orange Avenues). She also introduced Mr. Garry Williams, Landscape Planner who is overseeing this project. Ms. Radley made the following points regarding the park project:

- Community meetings/workshops were held and the community provided input and ideas for the park (shaded picnic shelters, dog runs/community gardens, soccer field, performance area)
- Park cost is approximately \$1,775,000 (excluding restroom costs);
- Available funds/budget includes \$375K received from SDG&E & \$1,000,000 from the Tax Allocation Refunding Bonds; staff is applying for grant as well which is due to be submitted in March 2010;
- Staff worked with SDG&E criteria and standards to be able to continue uninterrupted service from them within the easement (clearance for maintenance trucks, height restrictions, material restrictions, etc.)
- SDG&E is currently not approving the shade (metal) picnic structure and staff continues to work with SDG&E to find an acceptable type of picnic shelter;
- Adequate parking available. Thirteen parking stalls would be removed if the Fire Station is built;
- Park components include: multi-purpose/soccer field; children's play area & tot-lot; picnic shelters; seating, water conserving landscape design; off-leash dog area; restrooms (located outside the SDG&E easement & annexed to the Fire Station if it goes in); ½ basketball court terracing to create a performance space.

- Currently undecided on type of turf for multi-purpose field (artificial vs. sod);
- The plantings and landscape won't be as abundant as in other parks due to the constraints being placed by SDG&E. Full size trees cannot be located on the SDG&E easement;
- Graded in at one the end of the field, arch shaped terraces could be used for gathering location for special events (amphitheatre type) - (suggested from September community meeting).

Chair Chambers asked if the 3-acre per 1,000/population threshold was being fulfilled in western Chula Vista.

Ms. Radley responded that the park acreage threshold was not being met. She also noted that she would e-mail the latest Growth Management Oversight Committee figures to Margarita for distribution to the Commission.

Mr. Hopkins (Public Works Director) added that the Bayfront development would significantly add to the park acreage threshold in west Chula Vista.

Mr. Hopkins also noted that the City applied for a grant for the new fire station through the federal stimulus program – American Recovery & Investment. Notice could be received in December on whether the grant is awarded to fund the fire station.

Mr. Jim Garcia (Deputy Fire Chief) discussed the proposed new fire station situated next to the south Chula Vista Library. He provided a brief history on the annexation of the Montgomery area to the City of Chula Vista. He also discussed the condition of the current fire station on Fourth and Oxford Streets and noted that it doesn't meet City of Chula Vista requirements as far as Fire Station go. Mr. Garcia noted that with the new fire station, staff would be able to drive into the fire station vs. having to pull in reverse (stopping traffic on street) as they do at the current location.

Commissioner Rios asked if refurbishing the current fire station was considered.

Mr. Garcia responded that it was; however, the area is too small and staff wouldn't be able to pull into/drive through the fire station.

Commissioner Rios recommended moving the employee parking at the new fire station to the front of the station. He further stated that the employee parking would take up valuable park space that the community could use for a park shade structure.

Discussion took place regarding installing artificial turf versus sod and the pros and cons of both i.e., artificial turf gets hot during the summer, blood-borne pathogen issues in the event someone falls and injures themselves, etc.

It was the consensus of the commission that shade structures are an important component to the park. The Commission thanked staff for their report and presentation.

#### **4. Unfinished Business – None**

**5. New Business – None****6. Written Communications - None****7. Staff Comments -**

- a. Recreation – Mr. Brian Cox (Principal Recreation Manager) referred to the monthly report.
- b. Public Works – Ms. Radley provided an update on the 70-acre park that is located in Otay Ranch Village II. Components of the park were shared, and was noted that partial funds have been collected, which would allow staff to master plan a portion of the park. Ms. Radley also noted that the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is currently in the review process and that would be forthcoming to the commission in the coming year.
- c. Mr. Williams (Landscape Planner) provided an e-mail he received from a constituent regarding Loma Verde Pool programming.

Chair Chambers asked staff to follow-up with the constituent regarding her concerns.

- d. Mr. Hopkins talked about energy efficient projects that staff is working on: update lighting to energy efficient lighting in parking lots and fields; upgrade boiler at Parkway Pool to an energy efficient boiler, and add solar panels at facilities. Mr. Hopkins informed the commission that turf had been installed at Mt. San Miguel Park during the week of November 16 and the park would be completed at the end of the month. The park is tentatively scheduled to be open in March 2010 for general use (without field programming). Also discussed was All Seasons Park, which is situated in Village 7. Construction is scheduled to start in January or February 2010 with an anticipated opening to the public in 2011. Fields in All Seasons Park would not be considered for programming.

**8. Commissioner Comments –**

Commissioner Cien-Mayer noted that she was happy to see a new park being planned for west Chula Vista.

Commissioner Chambers concurred with Commissioner Cien-Mayer.

**9. Public Comments - None****10. Other**

**Meeting Adjournment at 7:45 p.m.. to the regularly scheduled meeting of January 21, 2010.**